Appeal to the Publick,

In BEHALF of all the

SCHOLARS

BORN or to be BORN

In the Two COUNTIES of

Northampton and Lincoln,

On the CASE of

The Rev. Dr. WILCOX, Master of Clare-Hall,
His having first taken away the

Propriety of Mr Freeman's Foundation.

WITHA

POSTSCRIPT,

CONCERNING THE

Removal of Mr. Freeman's FELLOWS to the Old Foundation,

Shewing the REAL VALUE of It.

By a Former FELLOW.

Printed for the AUTHOR, in the YEAR 1747.

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HE Reader that shall, have the Candor and Goodness to consider a little the Hardship and Difficulty of this Case, will not be too forward in his condemning a Person of Impertinence, for using fuch Endeavours to make it taken Notice of by the Publick, The very Ground and Occasion of laying this Matter before them, is a Proof of the Hardship and Difficulties of it, and is enough to turn their Eyes upon it. There is no One acquainted at all with the Universities, but who knows very well, that there is in most Colleges a Visitor appointed, to whom the Master, Fellows, and Scholars are all subject. This has ever been held a wife Institution, and all Endeayours to infringe upon it by the Members of these Bodies. have always been much resented; and if such Endeavours have ever met with any Encouragement, it has always been complain'd of as unfriendly to the Univerlities. Masters of Colleges cannot injure and oppress the Members of it, for They are subjected to Visitors, (to whom the Fellows and Scholars may complain, without Charge or Expence) who have Power to determine all Things summarily, without Noise and Buffle; and it is a Shame, when there is such a wife and eafy Remedy provided, for any Persons not to be fatisfied with it, but to disturb the Peace and Quiet of those Places by troublesome and vexatious Law-Suits, in the same manner as if they had no peculiar Judges appointed over them, to prevent this very Inconvenience. This us'd to be

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the Language of Colleges and Universities, and all Complaints before this, ever were, on the one Side, of being forc'd into Common Law Courts, and on the other, of the Partiality of Visitors, which was ever the tacit Pretence for removing these Causes. And thus far is most certain, that if the Constitution of Visitors was fairly kept up, every Scholar might be fure of a Hearing, which is all that is in this Case defir'd, and why it should be deny'd, is pretty hard to account. There is no doubt either with the Vice-Chancellor, or the College, that there is a Visitor, who has Power to hear all Complaints of the One against the Other; what Force his Sentence would have in Law, is another Question? The Visitor can certainly give his Opinion: He can hear the Cause, and judge of the Matter; and this would be no small Consolation, to be heard; and if the Scholar was not fatisfied, and would use further Endeavours to procure Justice, if He thinks himself injur'd, He has no Reason to complain, but must thank Himself for it, He is in the same State as his Fellow-Subjects are.

This is furely a great Hardship, to be denied the Refuge Founders have provided for all the Members of their Colleges, and the Scholar's being denied a Hearing, where He has a Right to have One, should procure him the Favour of one from the Publick. And the apparent Difficulty of the Cafe (not arising from the Subject-Matter of it, but) the Parties to it, is another Argument to be pleaded with the Publick, for their Attention. This Difficulty is apparent at first Sight, for when the ordinary Course of Things is perverted, which to be fure in College Cases is to come before the Visitor, there will be Difficulties enough arise how to pro-And it seems to be worthy the Consideration of the ceed. Publick, whether it is fit the Ingenuous Youth of the Nation should be expos'd to such Difficulties, or else submit to have their Rights taken away from them by a Master (3)

of a College, who may possibly be no better than other Men, exposed at least to the same Weaknesses and Instrmities, at least of Passions of all Kind, and want of Judgment, as they are. But as the Hardship and Difficulty of the Case, so is the Plainness of the Subject-Matter of it, a good Reason for laying it before the Publick. Tho it is betwirt a College and a Scholar, there is neither Greek or Latin in it, no Logick or Metaphysics, nor Law, but in the very Nature of it, as easy and sit to be judg'd of by a Country Jury, as any Cause that ever came before One.

Of It is in thort no more than this. It is certained notified the manufacture of the Marker and Fellows chester the best Sedeshar It is certained the manufacture.

First, The Testator intended the Benefit of his Foundation wholly and solely first for his Kinsmen, next for those Born in Northamptonsoire, Third, Those Born in Lincolnshire. To start it would be solded and awalls deidn

Secondly, There are many Foundations of the like kind in both Universities, by which those of these two Counties are excluded from any Benefit of those Foundations.

Thirdly, The Objection against this is, that it is so unreasonable a Constitution, that the College would not accept of it, and that therefore the Founder's, Executors condescended to alter it.

Fourthly, The Unreasonableness of the Constitution is only this, that it may sometimes happen, that a Master and Follows cannot chuse the most eligible Person in the College.

Fiftbly, To this it is answered, First, That this Propriety is not so liable to this Objection as many others are; because there are many more limited, as ev'n to those bred in a certain Country School, and this is only limited to two Counties, and is moreover provided with eight Scholarships,

which, if sufficient Care was taken, would always furnish a sufficient Choice for two Fellowships; and the College may, if it pleases, chuse out of the two Universities, without any other Restriction, than that of the Parties being Born in one of the two Counties, and the Party rejected is allow'd very Fit and Worthy to be chosen. Abild of a la second a senive lack

Sixthly, If the not being at Liberty to chuse the very best Scholar, is an Objection against this Foundation, it is an Objection against all Foundations whatsoever; for there is not a Fellowship in any one College which has not some Condition belonging to it, which may be an Impediment to the Master and Fellows chusing the best Scholar: It is enough, if they are not under a Necessity of chusing a bad One, of chufing an unfit or unworthy Person, which the College cannot pretend they are oblig'd to do, by this Propriety. which allows of a Choice out of two Counties. If this or any Propriety has been the Occasion of unfit and unworthy Persons being chosen in Clare-Hall, there have been, to my certain Knowledge, as unfit and unworthy Persons chosen by Free Election. But,

Seventbly, It is alledg'd, the Fact is plain, the Founder's Donation is alter'd: He only required the Perfons to be chosen to be fit; but they are required by certain Covenants between the Executors and College, to be as fit and worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them for these Fellowflips. The many for commendent and that when it tall , all cannot clinfe the mail clinfold Perfox or the Co

Eighthly, It is answer'd, Disputes about Words are endless, and always a Sign of a bad Caufe; but when Words are the Foundation of a continual Practice Facts are the best Expositors of Words and he beared want one storis service Country School, and this is off thinks to true

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epidendedes sales allis behivors torocaum & End . .. Ninth,

Nintbly, The certain Facts are, First, That for the first roo Years laster the Settlement of this Foundation, no one Instance can be produced of any one having the Propriety of this Foundation, being postpon'd to one who had not the Propriety. Secondly, That for the first roo Years, no one Instance can be produced of any one not having the Propriety, being made a Competitor with one having it. Thirdly, For 57 Years before the Year 1726 (ever since which Time this Propriety has been taken away) no one Instance can produced of any one Person's not having the Propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety at an arrange of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen for the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Foundation, being chosen for the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the Fellow upon it at all the propriety of the fellow upon it at all the propriety of the fellow upon it at

Tentbly, This last Fact including the other two for the fame Space of Time, being what can most easily be disproved if falle and having never been denied now in almost three Years time, is fufficiently proved to be true. And it is conceived to be incredible, and would be thought fo by any Jury, who are Judges of Facts, that any Society could believe itself at Liberty to chuse whom they thought more deserving. and not one of them in 57 Years, think some other Scholar more deferving than any one born in one of the two Counties nominated to a Fellowship. If it should not be allow'd that the last Fact includes that no Competitors of other Counties were ever nominated, the Fact, tho' a Negative, may fafely be depended upon; for the Nominations are always made at a Meeting of the Master and Fellows, they are always publish'd, that the Persons may make their Interest: If such a Thing had been only once done, it would have been publickly known and taken Notice of but no Footstep of it is to be found, and I myself conversed with a Master of the College and another Perions both Fellows of it, long before that Date of Time, and know they have faid many Things quite to the contrary. "Thus might this Matter be left to a Country Jury. If this Cause had been purely perfonal, a Thing to be done once, and repeated no more, I modw should

should not have wonder'd at a College chusing rather to stand it out than to make publick Confession, and as it we re doing Penance; but I confess the repeating the same Thing whilst the Complaint was continued to be urg'd, and giving such a Proof of their Resolution to continue such an injurious Practice, is what I cannot tell how to express my Admiration of; but instead of it resect upon the Record lately order'd to be made in the Court of Common Pleas.

Propriete has been taken away) no one inflance can produced That all Disputes about the Meaning of one Word in the Covenants is perfectly needless, troublesome, and impertment, is evident from hence alone, that the Word relates only to the Election. The Society, therefore, is under the very same Obligation with respect to Nomination, as if the whole Sentence had not been there. The College cannot be difcharg'd one Tittle from their Obligation to nominate those of the two Counties, because in order to be elected, they are requir'd to be as fit and worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them for these Fellowships, let others mean whom the Master pleases. But the College in several Years, and in feveral Elections, has not fo much as nominated any County Men, or, which is the same Thing, never published it to the Parties, which ought to be done, that they might have afferted their Right, which they must certainly have, if qualified, according to the Master's own Sense.

This Obligation to nominate the County Men (which is indisputable) will, when it comes to be consider'd, put an End to the whole Dispute. For their Obligation to do this, extends it self to every Scholar of Standing, born in either of the two Counties. And the College has no Way of Defeating the Right of any one Scholar so born, but by chuting some other so born; for otherwise, these Covenants are indeed most easily defeated. There needs only to nominate an unsit or unworthy County Man, and then the College may chuse

whom they please. Gentlemen of the learned and honourable Profession of the Law, do not use to make such insignificant, and childish Writings, whatever Interpretations they may meet with in Clare-Hall.

in their Layour, has made it to de and ciston of Juda The Obligation the Society is under, to Nominate or make County Men Competitors, without any respect had to any Others, (which is indisputable,) includes in it the Obligation to perfect that Act, for it is otherwise Childrens Play. In all Nominations, the Fellows only can nominate; the Master is then only a Witness of what They do; Every Fellow may nominate One, and no more than one; and the Nomination is ended, and not till then, when every one is fatisfied there is One nominated he can vote for, excepting the Master, who must chuse one nominated by a Fellow. The County Men have a Right to be nominated, without any respect to those of other Counties, beyond all Dispute; how then is Nomination perform'd, till there is One nominated of one of the two Counties, every Fellow is contented to vote for? The Master indeed has no hand in this; but as he is Custos Domûs, he is obliged to see their Oaths kept, to admonish the Fellows to do their Duty, and if that will not do, He may, and ought to call in the Visitor to his Assistance. to bu choten as the Market was, or any One

The Nomination indeed of a particular Person, does not include his Election, because it is an Act of One Man only; But the Obligation of nominating some of two whole Numbers of Persons, lying equally, and alike upon every one having the Power to nominate (or make Competitors) does include in it, an Obligation of Electing One of them; because in two whole Numbers, every Fellow may exercise his Power of Nomination, and to exercise it contrary to the Obligation of Nominating one of the two whole Numbers is inconsistent with that Obligation, and no one not Statuteably nominated can be chosen. The Covenants indeed being made upon the

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Plan of the Statutes, has made those who did not know the Plan, not understand them. And there being no doubt but the College must understand them perfectly, a good natur'd Presumption (as it would be, if it was not injurious to others) in their Favour, has made it so difficult to obtain the Reader's Patience, while the Injury might be plainly prov'd to him, which would hardly ever have been obtain'd at all if the Will had not been found, tho' the Right is as certain without it, as with it.

So hard is it always to remember, in our private Judgments, at least, the Rule always most Religiously to be observed, in Matters of Justice, to judge without respect of Persons.

The not naming Competitors of either of the Counties at all, which will be found to have been the Cafe for 18 Years in many Elections, till the Right was challeng'd, is a most evident Proof of a fraudulent Design to conceal the Will, and Covenants, and the Endeavouring to conceal what had been so done, is the true Account of all my Son's barbarous and inhumane Usage, as if he had been a Block-head and Scoundrel; tho' he had before a very good Character from themselves, which alone proves him to be as Fit and Worthy to be chosen as the Master was, or any One of the present Fellows of the College.

And as this was the Occasion of all that has been done, so the Courage to do it, has arisen from the Assurance that the Visitor would never be prevailed upon to intermeddle with this Assair, and a Perswasion, that a private Man with a large Family would not venture to go to Law, and the Party's being too inconsiderable to gain the Assistance, and Support of others. But they have found themselves mistaken, the World is better than they took it to be; and as I have pursued this Matter myself out of Resentment of the pernicious Consequences of the Principles and Practices, so there will be enough of the fame Refentment to be met with in others; And tho' I would have all the Sentiments of Gratitude, Honour, and Respect, Lought to have for the Worthy Gentlemen who have supported me with their Advice, and their Contributions, as more immediately receiving the Benefit of their excellent Spirit, I would not detract fo much from them as to attribute any Part of it to a personal Kindness, in as much as a Regard to Justice, Probity, Integrity. and Honour, is much superior to all personal Regards whatfoever, and is indeed the only fure Ground, and Foundation upon which all personal Regards can be built, and by which they are to be regulated.

HO; it may feers too forward, to confider N. B. It is formething really pleasant in the Master of Clare-Hall, to take no Care that these born in the two Counties, be made Competitors; Because some of them are to be as Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them: It is no wonder it should be difficult to know who others are who are Competitors with them for these Fellowships, who are not made Competitors at all.

their Fellowihips, in a truor It has been a hard Task upon me to argue semously against those I knew to be all the while in Jest, with serious Faces. because in a ferious Matter, which the Publick would believe them to be in earnest in, and depend upon their Knowledge and Judgment about it offer that the rolling of a longuage I much from of three Pellowikips, of his Yelue by it is



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POSTSCRIPT,

CONCERNING THE

Removal of Mr. Freeman's FELLOWS to the Old Foundation.

HO' it may seem too forward, to consider the future Usage, the Fellows on Mr. Freeman's Foundation in Clare-Hall by Propriety; ought to receive from the College, before the Propriety is recover'd; yet, since the real Value of the Fellowships depends very much upon it, and that I may say now at once, all I intend ever to say on this Subject, I shall set this Matter, for the Benefit of those who shall hereaster enjoy these Fellowships, in a truer Light, than they themselves perhaps would ever be able to do.

The Reader therefore must first be acquainted, that there was in Clare-Hall, what is call'd the Old or Clare Foundation, confisting of a Master and ten Fellows, and the Exeter Foundation of three Fellowships, of less Value by 10 l. per Ann. each, than Mr. Freeman's Fellowships when they were founded. And there has been since another Foundation of two Fellowships of 10 l. per Ann. moreValue than Mr. Freeman's, of Mr. Joseph Diggon's Founding.

It was the Practice of the College for many Years, to remove only those of the Exeter Foundation into the Old, which

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which is an intirely new and free Election, so that the Society may if they please pass them all quite over, and chuse a Scholar at first into the Old or Clare Foundation, from whence they are call'd Senior Fellows.

the Line believe being moved into it, and

It was the Practice, I say, whether uninterrupted or no, I can't pretend to say, to pass over both Mr. Diggon's the last, and Mr. Freeman's Foundation for several Years after the Settlement of them. For about 30 Years after the Settlement of Mr. Diggon's Foundation, no Fellow upon it was ever remov'd, Dr. Laughton having been the first so remov'd, with a very great Contest in the College.

The true Reason for excluding the Fellows on both these Foundations from the Clare, for so long Time as it was done, was on account of their Nearness in Value, at the Times of the first Settlement of them to It, and their great superior Value to the Fellowships on Lord Exeter's Foundation.

The Best, Clare, or Old Foundation Fellowships, were in those Days rarely vacated; it was more the Way than it is now, to live and die in a College; there was not then one College Advowson to remove a Fellow; and that this was so in Fact, that these Fellowships were rarely vacated, is certain from hence, that in the latter Part of those Times, when I came to the College, of the Ten then Senior Fellows, Seven of them died so, all of them but One, at that Time of Life, Fellows of Colleges seldom go abroad into the World, except with College Livings, of which there was not then so much as one.

In this State of Things, those on the two Foundations, next in Value to the Seniors, were thought well provided for, in Comparison of the Fellows on the Lord Exerce's Foundation, who therefore, it was thought reasonable, should

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have the few Chances for the Fellowships on the Old Foundation.

But Mr. Diggon's Foundation having no Propriety belonging to it, and the Exeter Fellows being mov'd into it, and the Fellowships on this Foundation confisting of Money Stipends, and not being capable of growing better; the Fellowships on the Old Foundation continually improving with the Times, there was no Reason why the Fellows should not advance on to the best Fellowships, and so they did even after it had first began to be done.

But the Practice at first begun, for the very same Reason, continued much longer with respect to Mr. Freemen's Foundation, on account of the Propriety, not for any Reasons which can now be alledged for doing it, but for some other. Reasons purely personal, which are now quite ceas'd.

And first, this was not done for any Reasons which can now be alledg'd. The only Reasons I can think of are, the Scholars of the two Counties having a Founder of their own, or, secondly, the Danger of an Overbalance of two Counties in a College.

But it is certain it was not done for either of those two Reasons, because all the Time this Practice was continued, all born in the two Counties, excepting those possess of the Fellowships, were as freely chosen as any others, into all other Fellowships. And there was no Reason to exclude them on account of an Overbalance of two Counties, because by the Statutes of the College, there can be but two of the same County, Fellows at the same Time on the Old Foundation, which is the main Point of Consequence in the College, with respect to this Matter. And as to the suff Reason, it would indeed be ridiculous to lay any Persons under

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under day inconvenience, on account of only Private thewns by a Founder, such about Thoughts, it is plain, were not the title College in those Buys, it is unit why then tweet they excluded a Upon un Acubung purely Perform, awhich is now quite cented, and radius of missions guided, about sawy against a direct missions guided, about sawy against a direct missions guided, about sawy against a direct missions guided.

by coming into to good Fellowships all at once, and those on the Exerc Foundation diving on such hard Commons, so long in Expectation, as they generally did, of a skitter Fellowship, which, as I observed, was but a poor Chance, because there were no Livings to vacate the Senior Fellowships, and without their Advontors, the Senior Fellowships live to be as old there how, as in my Time. This therefore was thought but a little Piece of Denial, in Abatesment of coming into a Fellowship twice as good, and over every one's Heid, and so long as the Disadvantage was a great deal tels than the Advantage, it might be tolerable. And in Fact it is terminly true, that even so lately, as when the present Master was chosen by Propriety, he, or any one, would sconer have aboun one of these Fellowships, with the Disadvantage of being never removed, than an Exercise one, with the Prospect of a Removal; for it is but a Prospect, and depends on keeping the Good Will of the Master and Fellows.

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ing the Original Stock, whatever it would prove to be for the College or Trusti was his Residuary Legatee There were ten Livings bought with this Benefaction before the Act of Parliament for Limiting the Number of College Livings was made, being more in Number than afterwards, could have been bought. This makes a wide Alteration in the Case of removing or not removing the Fellows on Mr. Freeman's Foundation, to the Clare or Old Foundation. What was before done, in confideration of the Advantage the Fellows on that Foundation had above all others in the College, (in Comparison of which the Disadvantage of not removing them was reckon'd but a Trifle) would really fink thefe Fellowships down to be the Worst from being the Best in the College, i. e. the most to be defired, on account of the Advantage of coming into fo good a One, instead of so poor a One as all others begin with in Clare-Hall. And however excuseable it may be, to lay an inconsiderable Inconvenience on account of a great Advantage, it is undoubtedly unjust and unfair, to lay a really greater Difadvantage, than the Advantage itself, and there can be nothing in the World faid for it, but that they can do it, and therefore they will do it. And tho the Spirit at present in Clare Hall has gone even further than this, to do what they cannot do, it is to be hop'd it will not always reign there, and the having injur'd the Propriety before, should be a Reason for making some amends for the Time to come. If this Matter should be determin'd in favour of the Propriety, no doubt it will be established for ever, there will be always two Fellows by Propriety on Mr. Freeman's Foundation, who have Votes for chuling a Master, and every lingle Fellow in the College, as much as the very Best of them; And it would be a Thing to be wonder'd at, if a Master and Fellows should use them. as if not of their Body, and live in a continual State of Enmity with them, put them upon continually making Factions or joining with any in the College, for no other Reason (and no other can be pretended) but purely 3.14

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the Society's being oblig'd to chuse them out of two Counties. The Exeter Fellows do not now wait long for better Fellow-Thips; They need lose nothing by the Propriety of this Foundation, for the Fellows upon it need gain no Superiority or Preference before them, but only, if they are deferving, and continue to be so, be promoted in their Turn as the other Fellows are. And as there is indeed a ressonable Custom begun, that even those Fellows on this Foundation not chosen by Propriety, in Consideration of their coming into a better Fellowship, than the Exeter Foundation at first, should not be removed into Mr. Diggor's (the second best Foundation) but his Fellowships be left to the Exeter Fellows, it is no doubt reasonable and ht to be done. But no Hardship can justly be laid upon this Foundation, purely on account of the Propriety of it, because the Master and Fellows have not a perfect free Election. It never was done so in Clare-Hall, but purely on account of personal Advantage; and the doing it would be ungrateful, and insolent towards the Foundation are daily great Gainers. This Foundation, therefore, unless great Injustice be done, which cannot be supposed will always last in a College, when sounded upon nothing but Humour, is of great Importance to the County. Time will come, when Folly and Absurdity may die, with the present Master and Fellows, in Clare-Hall, and when all Resentments will be forgot, and then this Paper may semain, and preserve a true History of this Master, when it may be fairly and candidly consider d; and of the Writer, it need only be known, that he was the Grandson of one of the first Fellows by Propriety, on should not be removed into Mr. Diggon's (the second best was the Grandson of one of the first Fellows by Propriety, on Mr. Freeman's Foundation in Clare-Hall. In a Word, when the Fellows on this Foundation were not remov'd, it was because the Fellows upon it, had even then, to long as it was perlisted in the Advantage of all other Perlons in the College. To refute to remove them now, would put their Fellows in a worle Condition, than any others incorporated, in the whole College.

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To do it would be ridiculous, for, do what they will, they must allow the Propriety; it is the Gift of the Founder, and to use them ill on that Account, is unjust, ungrateful, and insolent.

If there is any Thing obscure in this Postscript, it will not be so to those of the College, for whose Use it is principally intended, and who can easily come at the Proofs of the Facts.

The Master and Fellows threatning Scholars, having the Propriety of this Foundation, that if they are chosen Fellows upon it, they shall never be remov'd to the Old Foundation, is a corrupt Practice to procure to themselves the free Disposal of these Fellowships, and is indeed a vain Practice, because fix of the Senior Fellows must have left the College (which in my Time would not happen in twenty Years) before the County Man is to try his Fortune; and because any one, or more, refusing these Fellowships, cannot discharge the College from their Obligation, which respects All born in the Counties then capable, and is an Obligation laid upon them by the Founder and the Covenants, and not to any particular Persons, which nothing can set them free from, but a downright Impossibility of performing them. And it is strange any Society could fall into such Notions and Practices, as the present Master introduced into the College, of which I can give no other Account but this, that when Men think they may do what they please, they seldom trouble themselves to think about what they do, but only to save Appearances, the term contentrate that ac

The present Master's whole Proceeding in this Matter has been a continu'd Course, first, of violently breaking through the Propriety by denying Scholars Access to the Visitor, and then diswading or terrifying them from accepting the Benefit

of it; And it is high Time some Care should be taken about it for the Sake of All Trusts, sew of which have the same Security this has, the Obligation of solemn Oaths.

When this Obligation the College lies under is consider'd with Respect to particular Persons, there will be room for Suppositions in Fayour of the College, which may be very unjust to the Persons, and enhances the Injury that is done to them. But when the Obligation is consider'd, as it really is, with Respect to all the Scholars of two Counties, then this Matter appears in its true Light, and when they resuse to discharge this Obligation, because they will not acknowledge the Force of it to a very deserving Scholar, the Consequences of so doing sets the Action forth in its proper Colours.

And here I at first design'd to release the Reader, I should have hop'd fully inform'd of this Matter, with my Thanks to him for going so far along with me: But for the sake of some particular Persons I thought sit to add the following Paper.



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When this Obligation the College lies under is con with Raffied to particular Put A, there will be no

ROOFS that in the Words of the Covenants, relating to Mr. Freeman's Foundation, viz. Next those are to be prefer'd into these Fellowships which are or shall be born in the County of N----n, and, Thirdly, those that are or shall be born in the County of L---n, the Parties born or to be born in either of the two last mentioned Counties being found as Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them for these Fellowships: That,----in these Words those of other Counties are not meant by others as shall be Competitors with them."

And, First, upon view of the Words alone, if those of other Counties were intended by others, fifteen Words would have been better lest out, the Words would then have stood thus, "Next those are to be preser'd into these Fellowships "as are or shall be born in the County of N----n, and, "Thirdly, those that are or shall be born in the County of "L---n, being found as Fit and Worthy as others as shall "be Competitors with them for these Fellowships." I would ask any one who understands those of other Counties by others, whether there is any Thing wanting to express his Sense, or whether it is not as well or better expressed, than with the Addition of the fisteen Words lestout, viz. "the Parties born or to be born in either of the two last mentioned Counties." So many Words being persectly useless,

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useless, and consequently incumbring the Sense is a sufficient Argument, that those of other Counties are not meant, but that those Words were put in, to denote some only of each of the whole Numbers before mentioned, viz. those to be chosen in every Election, some of those before named, that are found as Fit and Worthy as others of the same two Numbers, Competitors with them who are chosen in every Election. But,

Design of it, which was to provide that these Scholarships and Fellowships should always be filled according to the Mind true Intent of the said John Freeman, as expressed in his last Will and Testament; It is certain that by this Will, no others besides the Kinsmen, and those born in the two-Counties, can be Competitors for these Fellowships; and the Clause being professedly designed to be according to this Mind, it cannot be the true Intent and Meaning of any Words in the same Clause, that those of other Counties should be Competitors.

Thirdly, As this Clause was designed to be according to the Mind and true Intent of the Founder, by which Mind those of other Counties cannot be Competitors with the County Men, so are there many Expressions in it perfectly agreeable to this Design, and inconsistent with those of other Counties being allow'd to be Competitors. The Master and Fellows oblige themselves in all their Nominations, i. e. in making Competitors, "principally to respect, first and before all others, the Blood and Kindred, next (as the Clause goes on) those are to be preser'd into these Fellowships that are or shall be born in the County of N----n, Thirdly, "those that are or shall be born in the County of L---n." This implies Nomination or making them Competitors, for

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no Person can be prefer'd into a Fellowship, who has not been first nominated or made a Competitor by a Fellow. And thus far there is not the least Shadow of a Pretence. that those of other Counties were ever thought of. It is very absurd then to interpret the Word others (never mentioned till the very Time of Election, when the Nomination or the Time of making Competitors may have been passed twenty-eight Days) as spoken of those of other Counties. If those of other Counties might have been chosen, some Care should have been taken for the making them Competitors. The College should not have been oblig'd to make the County Men Competitors any more than to elect them, unless as Fit and Worthy as others. The College, in this Case, should only have been obliged to make the County Men Competitors, if any in the College, and should have been allowed to have made those of other Counties Competitors. or at least it should not have been supposed, as is plainly done, that in all Elections ever to be made, there should always be Competitors of either of the two Counties, If those of other Counties might have these Fellowships, why must it be always supposed that those of the Counties are made Competitors? Why might they not as well be chosen without having any of the two Counties Competitors? This was fo natural upon this Supposition, that fince the College has embraced it, the Fellows in many Elections have not made one County Man a Competitor. And, no doubt, if those of other Counties had been defigned to have had these Fellowships, Competitors would never have been thus supposed necessary in the Election, but would only have been order'd conditionally, as it is now supposed by the College, their Election is only conditional.

There is another Observation to be made on the Words in the Covenants; the Words are, "those are to be prefer'd into these Fellowships," which is absolute without respect (23)

before others, as the Words ought and most certainly would have been, if those of other Counties had been intended by others.

It is further to be observed, that there is an Order of First, Next (i. e. Secondly) and Thirdly, of the Persons to be prefer'd into these Fellowships. But if those of other Counties were ever designed to have had these Fellowships, the Order would have gone one Step farther to Fourthly.

Lastly, it is worth observing, that this whole Matter relates full as much to the Election of Scholars as of Fellows; and I suppose most Readers will easily believe, it seems to be taking more Care than the Thing is worth, to provide, that a Scholar to be chosen into a Scholarship on this Foundation, must be as Fit and Worthy as others of any other County as shall be Competitors with him.

If this Dispute had not been with such a scrupulous College, it would have been inexcuseable to have enter'd into such minute Matters. But all Men must be treated in their own Way. And the Reader who might not need this Paper, to give him more Satisfaction than he had before, may perhaps make some Reslections upon it, which may be of Service to the Cause, to the Publick, and to the Preservation of what the present Master and Fellows of Clare-Hall are entrusted with, for the Good of all succeeding Generations.

I can hardly expect to be believed by the Reader, if I should tell him, what I myself sincerely believed to be true, that the Hatred of this Propriety had carried the Master to that Degree of Absurdity, as carefully to avoid chusing any one born in Northamptonshire Fellow of the College at.

all. And it is my undoubted Perfusion that my Son was under this Sentence of absolute Reprobation, from the Day of his coming to the College. That no Northamptonshire, and but one Lincolnsbire Scholar (upon some particular Accounts) has been chosen Fellow, I should have reckon'd but a finall Proof of this Matter alone by itself, but after teflecting upon what follows, and the real Guilt of this whole Proceeding, it will be of Weight. But my main Proof is grounded upon the many Circumstances of the following thort Narration. There were four Scholars of the fame Year, or Standing, Mr. N----le, Mr. B---x--n, Mr. B -- d -- ge, and Mr. L -- u -- ce, the first and third Pupils to Mr. T--v--ar, who never had Interest enough in the College to procure one Pupil to be chosen Fellow, and was at last so sensible of it, as generously to tell all the Scholars, who offer'd to admit themselves under his Care. that if they had any Defires of University Preferment, they must not come to him. Mr. N----le was so sensible of this. that he took his Degree at Midfummer, a Thing never done by any who value an Academical Reputation. It happened foon after the other three had compleated their Degrees, that a Fellowship on Mr. Freeman's Foundation became vacant, Who now will the Reader expect to find chosen, Mr. N----le born in Warwicksbire, Pupil to Mr. T---v---ar. who took his Degree at Midfummer, without Expectation of a Fellowship, the Son of a Worthy Tradesman; or Mr. L--u--ce born in Northamptonsbire, Pupil to Mr. Godard, equal in the Estimation of all who knew them both, with respect to Scholarship and Regularity, the Son of a Clergyman formerly of the College, and Nephew to a former Fellow on this Foundation? The Case was so clear on the Side of Mr. N----le, that Mr. L---u--ce was not so much as acquainted with his Right; by his faithful Tutor Mr. Godard. But why was Mr. N-----le chosen, and not Mr. B-x---n or Mr. B --- de? Was he on any Account what soever preferable .114

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preferable to either of them? I challenge the Master and every one in the University who knows them, to say he was But the Event will shew the Reason, Mr. L-u-ce might be now made to fee these two also would be prefer'd before him, and leave the College, and then Mr. Godard might dispose of Mr. B-d-ge, Mr. T--v-ar's Pupil, as he pleased. But Mr. L-u-ce stays, sees them both chosen, then tries his Fortune, had several of the Fellows so warm for him, that Mr. N----le himself told me Mr. L-u-ce had the hardest Usage ever Scholar had in his Time. Mr. L--u-ce was rejected, and the Master made a cheap Compliment of his Favour to a very deferving young Gentleman, whom he brought in at that Time purely to keep the other out. And now the Reader may pass his Judgment, whether Mr. Freeman's Benefaction to the two Counties, has been a Bleffing to them, or has not rather been most ingeniously turned into a Curfe upon them 2000 real to sid driver to fines

Marier's invonrice sixprention.

That I may not now omit the taking Notice of any Thing, which the Master may have said for himself. I expect one Thing has been faid, that it was done by his Predecessor; how far this is true I do not know, but it is possible an Election or two might be made in Dr. Morgan's Time, upon this Foundation, according to the Practice Dr. Wilcox had before introduced. But the Point was never disputed, the Claim was never challeng'd in Dr. Morgan's Time, and tho' if he did do it. He cannot be excused from the Guilt of Disobedience to the Founder, the Injustice that was done being directed to no particular Person, was imperceptible. But I hope, for the lake of the Master's Modesty, he will not make use of this Plea : For the indeed if Dr. Morgan had done it first, it might have been a pretty good Excuse for Dr. Wilcox's following his Example; yet as the Cafe is, that Dr. Wilcon began this Practice, and Dr. Morgan only followed him in it, it would be a most impudent Thing in taken the

the present Master, to lay any Part of the Blame of what He had done upon his Predecessor; who, if he was guilty of any Fault in this, or in any Thing elle relating to the College, it was certainly owing to his leaving the Management to Dr. Wilcox, who had before got it into his Hands, by the Fellows being all accidentally fo Young, as to have been Pupils to him, when he was not himself near forty. And since I have been forced to mention a Person, all that knew Clare-Hall in our Time, knew I had a very particular Friendship with, I make no Scruple to fay, that there is this Difference betwixt Dr. Wilcox and Dr. Morgan, that the first carried even his own Interpretation of cæteris paribus, to a ridiculous Degree of Strictness, to keep my Son out of the Society, and Dr. Morgan would, I dare fay, have interpreted the same Words, as favourably as He could, that He might have shewn as much Kindness and Respect for Me as He thought confistent with his other Obligations, to borrow the present Master's favourite Expression.

But these Things are nothing to the Merits of the Cause, nor of any Consequence to the Party himself, for the Fellowship itself is not now worth his having. But the Foundation is, all Things considered, the most valueable Interest the County of Northampton has, I believe, in either of the two Universities. And to say the Truth, in my Opinion, there is something so shocking to Common Sense, in this whole Proceeding, as to deserve to be exposed to publick View, for the very Folly and Absurdity of it.

The very Pretence for all that has been done, will be found as Great a Reflection upon the Master's Understanding, as the End and Design it is to serve can be. The End and Design is, that Founders may not pretend to prescribe to the Master and Fellows in their Elections, but must leave all to them. The Pretence, under which this Propriety has been

taken away, is, " that the Parties born or to be born in " either of the two Counties are to be as Fit and Worthy as others, as shall be Competitors with them for these Fellow-" Thips." Now the Parties born or to be born in either of the two last mention'd Counties, are the Persons actually chosen in every Election; they are here spoken of as chosen. as prefered into the Fellowships, and consequently before found as Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them. The Parties born or to be born in Either of the two Counties, can be no others, but these very Persons, for they cannot be Northamptonshire Scholars fingly, or Lincolnshire fingly for these are not born in either of the two Counties but each of them in one certain County: neither can they be compounded of Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire Scholars, for these are born in both the two Counties, and not in either of them. which is one only, which one you may please, or shall happen. But the Persons actually chosen, may be born in either of the two Counties, for any Thing in the Covenants, and it is purely eventual in which County they shall be born, which cannot be faid of any Persons actually born; and therefore, the Persons born or to be born are not here spoken of, but the Persons chosen or to be chosen, and consequently as Fit and Worthy as others, cannot fignify as others not so born, for no Person is born in either of two Counties, tho' a Party may be fo) but as others not so chosen, who may be chose out of those, born in one of either of the two Counties.

This is the whole Pretence, nothing but falling blunderingly upon something, which, with a grave Face, and by the Authority not only of a College, but as it should seem a College of great Authority (for no other Reason that I know of, but that there really were in the Memory of many, some very eminent Men of it, at least two most certainly so) may be put off, upon those who have no Concern in it, which is enough, if it can be kept from being laid before those who would

roes before; neither could the Disjunction be put in to no

would be obliged to examine the Matter to the Botrom: And as I am verily perfuaded, the Master will sooner give up his Cause than suffer it to be exposed at any Bar, I was willing to lay it open here. I shall therefore just return to the Words, "the Parties born or to be born in either of the "two last mentioned Counties, (i. e. the Persons actually "chosen of which County soever they shall happen to be) " being found (that are found, or after they are found) as " Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with "them." I would ask the Master, would He have the Person chosen, less Fit than his Competitors, or as Fit? And must not They be others? Other Persons, if He pleases, or Parties as in Strictness. But, Others as shall be Competitors, methinks I hear the Master say, why Others as shall be Competitors, Why not as their Competitors? Would not the last Expression have served the Master's Turn as well? I believe it would; it certainly would, if the Fellows may make whom they please Competitors. And if they cannot do this, Others as shall be Competitors will do him no Service. because Competitors limits Others. individual solution in individual secondo in

But there is, after all, a Reason for others as shall be Competitors with them, instead of their Competitors: It is to answer the Disjunction either, which could not be put in, to signify the Society might chuse indifferently Parties of either of the two Counties, because this is directly contrary to what goes before; neither could the Disjunction be put in to no Purpose: It must therefore be put in, to signify Those of the same County only could be Competitors with One another, the Parties of either of the two last mentioned Counties as Fit and Worthy as Others as shall be Competitors with Them for these Fellowships. So that Others, instead of signifying those of all Counties, signifies only those of One certain County, viz. Only the same County as the Person actually chosen, shall happen to be of. It is true, both

Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire Scholars may be Competitors for the Fellowships, but not with one another, but each with each. If any Fellow does not think any Northamptonshire Competitors Fit, He may doubtless name a Lincolnshire Scholar, Competitor for the Fellowship, but each is still in his own Order. This, I doubt not will be found the true Account of this Matter, The Disjunction Either made Me immediately see (as soon as I observed the Word) those of other Counties were not meant by Others; but I did not so immediately see the full Force of it. Thus have I laid this Matter open to the Few that may be disposed to mind it, because as the good Master knows better Things, than ever to say one Word about it, and will I verily believe never plead this Cause, this Matter might never have appeared in its full Light.

But there is one Thing more to be taken Notice of, under the Head of Folly, and Abfurdity. The Master observed the Blood and Kindred have no Competitors. Does He think they may not be Competitors with one another? And this, by the Bye, shews the Difference betwixt being Competitors with one another, and Competitors for the Fellowthips. If one of the Blood or Kindred was made a Competitor, i. e. nominated, as he must be before He can be chosen, and One of the Fellows should not think him Fit to be chosen. He might certainly nominate or make a County Man Competitor; but he would not be Competitor with the Blood or Kindred, but would be a Competitor for the Fellowship. But the Master has further observed, that, as a Mark of Favour, the Blood or Kindred are to be chosen if Fit, a special Favour this, which may exclude them, and can never help them! Suppose the Words left out, would the Case of the Blood and Kindred be better or worse for it by the N

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I shall now lay hold on this Opportunity of publishing the last Favour I was able to obtain of the Master.

resident pinte and transferring the property of

Dear Sir, Clare-Hall, Oct. 31, 1744.

Received your Letter, in which you express your Distatisfaction with the Commendamus lately given your Son by the Society. Upon Enquiry, I am informed it was laid upon the Table in the Combination Room, as has been the constant Practice of late Years, the Day before it was figned, and fealed, to be perufed and confidered by the Fellows, and that upon Deliberation they were unanimously of Opinion not to infert any Thing as to his having been Studious.

For my own Part, you mustbe sensible I could have little or no Opportunity of observing with what Diligence he followed his Studies. From the Examinations I took in Greek and Latin Books, twice I think when he fat for Scholarships, I judged him to be of lively Parts, and to have made good Proficience in thole Languages. I made the same Judgment of him afterwards when he fat for his Degree: but his Philosophical Examination, at the same Time, did not answer the Expectation I had of him; so that I could not from thence infer his Diligence in the Profecution of those Studies which are usually called Academical.

I have always been defirous, and continue to be fo, of doing your Son what Service I can, confistently with other Obligations, and am,

Dear Sir, Son a length chall worm die

Your affectionate, humble Servant,

7. Wilcox.

How unfortunate was this Scholar to have his Character thus canvaffed by a Mafter and Fellows, with fuch fcrupulous Consciences! What Credit will Their Letters Testimonial do all who are honoured with them? The Society could not at first grant this unfortunate Scholar any Letters Testimonial at all; but their good Nature at length overcame their Scruples; they resolved to fay all they could of him. They at last certify his Behaviour had been Sober and Regular. But upon Deliberation were unanimously of Opinion not to insert Any Thing as to his having been Studious. The Master, it feems, is no Part of the Society, and so he answers distinctly for himself. The Scholar's Philosophical Examination, did not answer the Expectation the Master had of him. It is very strange the Master should entertain any Expectations of fuch an Idle Rogue. But the Master goes on, so that be could not from thence infer his Diligence in the Prosecution of those Studies which are usually called Academical. The Case is therefore plain, for if the Society had certified any Thing of the Scholar's Studiousness, and the Bishop had examined him in Learning usually called Academical; what would his Lordship have thought of this College, either that they had no Learning themselves usually called Academical, or that they had fallified? But if the Master could notinfer the Scholar's Diligence, in the Profecution of those Studies which are usually called Academical how could He conclude any Thing as to his having been Studious? His Proficience in Greek and Latin Books might be all brought along with him from Bury School. He had indeed a Senior Optime: but Mr. Godard had told Him it had been obtained with great. very great Difficulty, tho' he knew the Examiners had declared they were so mistaken in him, as to give it him for his Merits. Mr. Godard had also told the Master, the Scholar had kept a very good Act, an Exercise Cambridge Men know to be the principal One; He had also kept another Act, and two Opponences, a greater Share of Exercise than falls to many;

many, and is always a Proof of being reckoned among the Few. But the young Man had lively Parts, and so all this might happen without his being any thing like Studious. How would the Master and his Fellows like to be so used? The Master could conclude nothing of the Scholar's Studioufness, because He did not answer his Expectation, in the Examination had of him in Learning usually called Academical. Now suppose an Examination should be had of the Master, and the nine Fellows who joined with him, in Learning usually called Rabbinical, I believe not one of them would answer the Expection, that might justly be had, of a College of Men who are all obliged Finaliter profiteri Theologiam. It is certain not one of them was able to make Tryal of the Scholar, who feriously defired to be examined in Hebrew, as some Compensation for not answering the Mafter's Expectation in Learning usually called Academical. But to fay no more of this Matter, that I may not feem to feed Vanity, the Reader has, or may have, if he pleases, the Master's and Mr. Godard's Letters in the Former and Prefent State, and in Copies of Letters and Papers, and may from thence judge whether, after fuch Letters, it does not come under the Head of Folly and Absurdity for the Religious and Learned Society of Clare-Hall (whether with a Head or without a Head, it matters not much) upon Deliberation to be unanimously of Opinion not to insert any Thing of my Son's Studiousness. The Reader may also judge whether the Propriety of the Foundation was denied to him. because they were unanimously of Opinion not to lay any Thing of his Studiousness, or whether they were not of that Opinion, because they had unanimously denied him the Propriety, and were resolved still more unjustly never more to regard it. softe in the total and ball which . The had keet a very good Adt, on Exercise Commission Man

And now, just to remind the Reader of what has been laid before him in the Appeal, and this Supplement to it, First,

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First, The Certainty of this Foundation being appropriated by the Testator.

Secondly, The certain declared Design of the Covenants to secure the Performance of the Mind and true Intent of his Will.

Thirdly, The Practice of the present Master certainly unprecedented for 100 Years before he began it, as to rejecting County Men, and making those of other Counties Competitors with them.

Fourthly, The Practice of the College for 57 Years before, so unlike to the present Master's, that in all that Time no One, not having the Propriety of the Foundation, was ever made a Competitor for a Fellowship of it; whereas the Master, for 18 Years, never took care to have One, having the Propriety, made a Competitor.

Fifthly, That all Disputes about the Sense of Words is in this Case needless and troublesome, because the Words in Dispute concern only the Persons to be chosen; but the Master has not so much as taken care to have the County Men made Competitors, which he cannot be excused from; because some of them are to be as Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them, which plainly implies the County Men to be made Competitors.

Sixtbly, That the Pretence that this Foundation, appropriated by the Testator, was disappropriated again by his Executors, is foolist and absur'd; First, because contrary to their express Declaration of doing the direct contrary, and to many Things in the Covenants themselves, and, Secondly, Because the Words themselves are not only capable of a Sense consistent with the Will itself, and express declared Design

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of the Covenants, and to many Things in them, but are at last not capable of the Sense the Master has put upon them.

Seventhly, That it is probable the Master has industriously avoided chusing Persons born in either of the two Counties, from the certain Fact that no Northamptonshire Scholar has been chosen, and but one Lincolnshire upon some particular Accounts, and from several remarkable Circumstances in a short Narrative.

Eighthly, That the present Party's Character has been endeavour'd to be taken away from him, by falsly pretending the Senior Optime to have been obtained for him with great, very great Difficulty, by denying him Letters Testimonial for Holy Orders, by the Society's upon Deliberation, being unanimously of Opinion not to insert any Thing as to his having been Studious.

I was always of Opinion (tho', out of mere Submission, and because my Son's particular Case allowed of it, I did at first concede that those of other Counties might be understood by others as a Provision for a Case of Necessity, which was indeed a foolish Supposition) that these Fellowships could not be given to any Persons, not mentioned by the Founder, and at the very first told the Master he could not justify the having done it.

The whole Tenour of the Clause of the Covenants, is a Proof of this, without knowing one Word of the Will. The Design of the Clause is, to declare who are to be prefer'd into the Fellowships, and how they are to be elected; the first was the Appointment of the Testator, the second was necessarily left to be done by the Society. The Blood and Kindred are first, and before all others, to be prefer'd: This implies they are to be nominated, but not that they are

to be chosen, for that is to be only, if found Fit. But there is no mention of Competitors, because not likely to be more than One Kiniman at the same Time; or perhaps if there should be more than One, at the same Time, and all Fit: fince this Preference is grounded purely upon Kindred it ought to be determined by the nearer Proximity. Next, or secondly, those are to be prefer'd into these Fellowships, &c. this implies both Nomination and Election, which goes before the being prefer'd into, which is the very last Thing to be done, the Act of the Master himself, or his Locum Tenens. But as to this Election, there being nothing else to determine it but Fitness and Degrees of Worthiness, the Persons to be prefer'd into the Fellowships (or Scholarships, for there is no more Care taken of the One than of the Other) are to be found as Fit and Worthy as others as shall be Competitors with them for these Fellowships or Scholarships. As others (in common Sense) to be prefer'd into them, when those born in two Counties had been nam'd before: As others of the same County, to answer the Disjunction Either (otherwise to no. Purpose) and agreeably to the Order, in which those of the two Counties are to be prefer'd into the Fellowships and Scholarships. There is nothing but the being to be actually chosen, which can determine of which County, the Parties of either of the two Counties must be; for Either of the two Counties is eventual, and confequently there must be something to determine who they are. THEMEL

The very Plainness of the Case has been the very Reason of its not being credited; and while it concern'd a private Person only, it seem'd to be too importunate with the Publick, to make it thus clear to them, and indeed the pretending to do it, look'd too much like what is justly most Odious, pretending to dictate to Others. But now the Cause is become that of a County, and its Interest in it is truly very considerable; this Appeal it is hoped will not appear impor-

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tunate. And fince the Authority of a College, and the real Incredibleness of the Thing, are so great Prejudices with most Persons, it will not, it is hoped, be thought Dictating, for One who lived many Years constantly in the College, to pretend to explain, and prove this Matter, to those who are much better Judges than himself, especially since it is in Order to enable them to judge of the Evidence of the Injury that has been done, and the Importance it is of to them, that they may determine of the Reasonableness of carrying on this Cause, in order to bring it before a competent Judge, which is the whole Defign of this Appeal.

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Lately published,
Letter to the Knights of the Shire and Gentlemen of the County of Northampton, &c. on the same Subject, wherein are the Founder's Will and the Clause of

the Covenants; which, with some other Papers printed, tho not publish'd, may be had at Mr. Dicey's at

Northampton.

